

Misc. 1727
American Missionary Association

287 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

**History
Fields
Methods**



1914 ——— 1915

HISTORY

PURPOSE

The Second Article of the Constitution of this Association is:

"The object of this Association shall be to conduct Christian missionary and educational operations, and diffuse a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures in our own country, and other countries which are destitute of them, or which present open and urgent fields of effort."

ORGANIZATION

The American Missionary Association was organized in 1846. It came into existence in the midst of agitation and storm. The Negroes were slaves apparently in hopeless bondage; the Indians were the wards of the nation, pillaged, robbed and murdered according to the greed and lust of the selfish and brutal. The Chinaman was a curiosity in a few American cities. The American Highlanders, detesting slavery, but not knowing how to oppose its encroachments, were locked away in the fastnesses of the southern mountains and neglected by Christian philanthropy. Alaska was a foreign country, and no Christian responsibility was felt for its people. Porto Rico and the other new island territories were under the cruel hand of Spanish tyranny.

FOREIGN

Foreign fields were early occupied, and in 1854 there were seventy-nine missionaries located in foreign lands, including Africa, Jamaica, the Hawaiian Islands, Siam, Egypt and Canada. When the Indian missions, as a whole, were transferred to the Association, the work was discontinued in foreign fields.

INDIAN

Indian missions were among the first efforts of this Association. As early as 1852 there were twenty-one missionaries among the Indians in the Northwest. In 1882 the Indian work, as a body, was committed to the American Missionary Association, the Indian work of the American Board being united with that already established by this Association.

NEGROES

Work for the colored people at the first was somewhat feebly carried on among the refugees of Canada and among the slaves of the South. The great body of work of the Association was in the West, with a few churches in the South, in foreign fields, and among the Indians and Chinese, until 1861. In September, 1861, the first school for freedmen was established by this Association at Hampton, Va. Schools were rapidly organized for Negroes in other southern states. In 1863 institutions were already planted in twelve different states.

CHINESE

In missions among the Chinese of America the Association was a pioneer. This work began in 1852. Thousands have been converted in its missions, many of whom have gone back to China carrying the gospel.

JAPANESE

An important work has been inaugurated among the Japanese. There are at least 100,000 Japanese in the United States. This work adds very little to the missionary expenses, as that already organized among the Chinese is made available for both races. A mission among the Japanese is maintained in Seattle, the A. M. A. coöperating with the churches of that city. Evangelistic work is maintained among 6,000 Hindus.

HIGHLANDERS

The work among the mountain people was begun very early in the history of the Association. In 1848, only two years after the organization of the Association, commissions had been issued to missionaries who were laboring in this mountain region. With the interruption of a few years following the John Brown raid, and in the midst of the Civil War, this work of the Association among the Highlanders has been steadily maintained and developed.

ALASKA

In Alaska this Association was also a pioneer. At Cape Prince of Wales a mission was opened in 1890, and with the exception of a few months during the stringent times, it has been continued. It has already reached many, both Eskimos and whites, with Chris-

tian influence. Thornton Memorial Chapel, in memory of the martyred missionary, has been erected. The J. F. Cross bell is placed in the belfry of this chapel.

PORTO RICO

At the close of the Spanish war the island of Porto Rico came under our flag. The Association at once sent missionary teachers and a minister to this island. A little company of twenty-five missionaries, including teachers and pastors, has been maintained by the Association. Eleven Congregational churches have already been organized.

MISSIONS IN HAWAII

The Association, in 1904, by the urgent request of the Hawaiian Evangelical Association, undertook to aid the latter in its entire work among the native Hawaiians, and the Chinese and Japanese in those islands. These islands seem to have been providentially situated so as to form the training school of missionaries for the Orient. Many Chinese and Japanese have settled here. Back of this work in Hawaii there lies the great field of missions in China and Japan. This is the gateway to Asia and means great things in the regeneration of that vast region.

EDUCATIONAL WORK.

The higher institutions in the South include the following :

	FOUNDED
Fisk University, Tenn.....	1865
Talladega College, Ala.....	1867
Tougaloo University, Miss.....	1869
Straight University, La.....	1869
Tillotson College, Texas.....	1876
Piedmont College, Ga.....	1897

The schools among the Highlanders, consisting of nine, include Grand View Normal Institute, Tenn.; Pleasant Hill Academy, Tenn.; Normal and Industrial Institute, Joppa, Ala.; Saluda Seminary, N. C.; Piedmont College, Demorest, Ga.

Santee Normal Training School, Santee, Neb., is reaching the Indian people of the prairies.

Among the Chinese and Japanese are 16 schools at various points on the Pacific Slope.

In Alaska the one mission is at Cape Prince of Wales.

In Porto Rico, Blanche Kellogg Institute is situated in the northern part of the island at Santurce.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING has held an important position in the educational work of the Association for many years. Talladega College was the first institution to introduce this important branch of study. Now almost every school in the South and West has a more or less extended department of industrial training. Large farms are cultivated in several institutions.

Equal care is taken in the training of girls and young women both in domestic and general industries. Hospital Work and Nurse Training furnish an important feature in some of these institutions.

Total number of institutions of all grades is 90.

CHURCH WORK

Among the Negroes there are 147 churches scattered throughout the South.

The 23 churches in the Indian Field are planted on reservations reaching from Nebraska to Washington, and occupying important points in five states.

In the South our churches now number 174. These churches raised toward their own support \$49,727.16 and for benevolent contributions \$3,071.20.

Among the Highlanders the 27 churches are situated in Kentucky, Tennessee and have 1,310 members.

CONCLUSIONS

Perhaps no missionary organization in the land holds so close relationship to the questions that interest and agitate us as citizens as does this Association. The Negro problem in the South, or rather the problem of two races living together, both increasing rapidly and maintaining their racial separation in one section of our country, attracts wider attention among patriotic Christians to-day than ever before. That the solution of this problem proposed by this Association, namely, the industrial, intellectual and spiritual elevation of both races, is the only true and sure solution is the growing conviction. This

message and the messenger who brings it, be he secretary or missionary of the American Missionary Association, finds a cordial and large welcome in the churches. We recognize this fact and rejoice in it.

The methods of work include every department of instruction, from kindergarten through industrial training and secondary schools, instruction in the higher institutions, with professional training of ministers, and thus this Association reaches the material and intellectual and religious development of the millions of people where the institutions of the American Missionary Association are planted.

Last year this Association contributed to the support of 90 institutions which enrolled 14,515 pupils. Our churches have a right to rejoice in the magnitude of this great educational work.

The economy of the work especially warrants this earnest plea for immediate and enlarged support. The fiscal year of the A. M. A. closes September 30, 1915. It is hoped that the contributions of the friends of this great work will reach the treasury promptly.

Sixteen churches among the Oriental Missions of the Pacific slope, with a membership of 1,103 present a remarkable showing. The benevolent contributions from these churches for the support of their church and mission work have been generous and sacrificial.

Christian Endeavor Hall, at Blanche Kellogg Institute, Porto Rico, has been of large value. The Christian Endeavorers of our Congregational denomination did much toward the erection of this building, and the need of immediate contributions for the support of the institution is pressing.



American Missionary Association

Statistics 1913-1914

EDUCATIONAL WORK SOUTH

	Negro	White	Totals
Theological.....	2	1	3
Colleges.....	5	1	6
Secondary Institutions.....	22	3	25
Elementary Institutions....	7	3	10
Affiliated Institutions.....	4	1	5
Ungraded Schools.....	19	—	19
Officers and Instructors....	482	96	578
Pupils.....	11,782	1,617	13,399

CHURCH WORK SOUTH

	Negro	White	Totals
Churches.....	147	27	174
Members.....	9,819	1,310	11,129
Missionaries.....	79	17	96

WORK AMONG THE INDIANS

(Including Alaska)

Churches.....	23
Members.....	1,331
Schools.....	5
Missionaries and Teachers.....	41
Pupils.....	189
Out-Stations.....	11

WORK AMONG CHINESE AND JAPANESE

Schools.....	16
Teachers.....	38
Pupils.....	887
Churches.....	16
Members.....	1,103
Conversions.....	115

PORTO RICO

School.....	1
Instructors.....	7
Pupils.....	40
Ministers and Missionaries.....	18
Churches.....	11
Members.....	691
Out-Stations.....	33

HAWAII

American Missionaries.....	11
Chinese and Japanese Evangelists.....	11

GENERAL SUMMARY

Schools.....	90
Pupils.....	14,515
Missionaries.....	689
Churches.....	224
Church Members.....	14,254
Out-Stations.....	44

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The *American Missionary* united magazine gives facts, incidents and discussions of the work, and will have an increased amount of interesting and valuable information during the coming year. Subscriptions received at any time. Price, 50 cents. Write for reduced club rates.

A. F. BEARD, Editor.

Correspondence

Relating to the work of the Association should be directed to one of the Corresponding Secretaries; relating to the finances, to the Treasurer, New York.

Donations and Subscriptions

May be sent to Irving C. Gaylord, Treasurer, New York, or, when more convenient, to one of the District Secretaries. A payment of \$50 constitutes a Life Member.

Bureau of Woman's Work.

Correspondence of Woman's Local and State Organizations, and all interested in women's work, may be held with Mrs. F. W. Wilcox, Secretary, New York.

Form of a Bequest.

I GIVE and BEQUEATH the sum of ——dollars to "The American Missionary Association," incorporated by act of the Legislature of the State of New York. The will should be attested by three witnesses.